

XMH-00904

Latitude:

Longitude:

Determination: Eligible

Site XMH-00904 is located on a narrow northwest-southeast trending ridge. There are no landmarks visible from the site due to dense tree cover surrounding the area. The nearest water source is , located 400m to the east. The vegetation consists of a mixed forest with moss, lichen, and dwarf scrub. Surface visibility is approximately 25 percent on the site. The UTM coordinates for the site are:



*Figure 31. General view of site XMH-00904, facing east*

Site XMH-00904 consists entirely of lithic debitage. One flake was found on the surface during the phase 1 survey and an additional 41 flakes were recovered from subsurface testing. No tools were found at the site. Materials consisted of gray chert, reddish-brown chert, banded chert, basalt, quartz, and obsidian. All but one flake at the site (1 of 42) was a tertiary flake.

Shovel tests were systematically placed throughout the site area at intervals of 10m. Three shovel tests were placed along the northwestern edge of the landform to determine if the site extended any further beyond the test grid. A total of 42 shovel tests were excavated at the site. The depth of the shovel tests varied, but all were excavated to glacial till. A total of five shovel tests were positive with artifact densities ranging from one flake to 18 flakes. Subsurface artifacts were found at depths of 3-25cm in all positive shovel tests.

One 1m x 1m test unit was excavated at site XMH-00904. The test unit was placed 10m north and 22m west of the datum. The unit was excavated in 10cm levels. The test unit contained 13 artifacts from levels one and two at depths ranging from 5-20cm. No subsurface features were identified at the site. Soil thickness varied from 12-50cm across the site. The top (near datum), eastern, and southern portions of the site have sustained considerable wind erosion and soil deposition only averaged 10-20cm in depth. Soil in this area is loosely compacted, dark brown, organically rich loess to an average depth of 5cm. Below this organic horizon the soil is moderately compacted yellow brown loess with a low density of gravels and cobbles. Glacial till is encountered below this loess deposit and consists of yellow brown sandy loess with a high density of gravels and cobbles. There is more soil deposition on the western and northern portions of the site, averaging 30cm. Soil in these areas is loosely compacted, dark brown, organically rich loess to an average depth of 5cm. Below this organic horizon, the soil is of moderately compacted brown loess with a low density of gravels and cobbles to an average depth of 15cm. Below this is moderately compacted yellow brown loess, also with a low density of gravels and cobbles, to an average depth of 30cm. Glacial till is encountered below this loess deposit and consists of yellow brown sandy loess with a high density of gravels and cobbles.



### Findings

A total of 42 artifacts were recovered from XMH-00904. One flake was recovered from the surface and 41 were recovered from below the surface. No tools were found at the site; however, the size of the subsurface component at XMH-00904 is large and there is a strong possibility of encountering tools through further investigations. Based on the results of the survey and testing, the site area is estimated at approximately 35m x 35m.

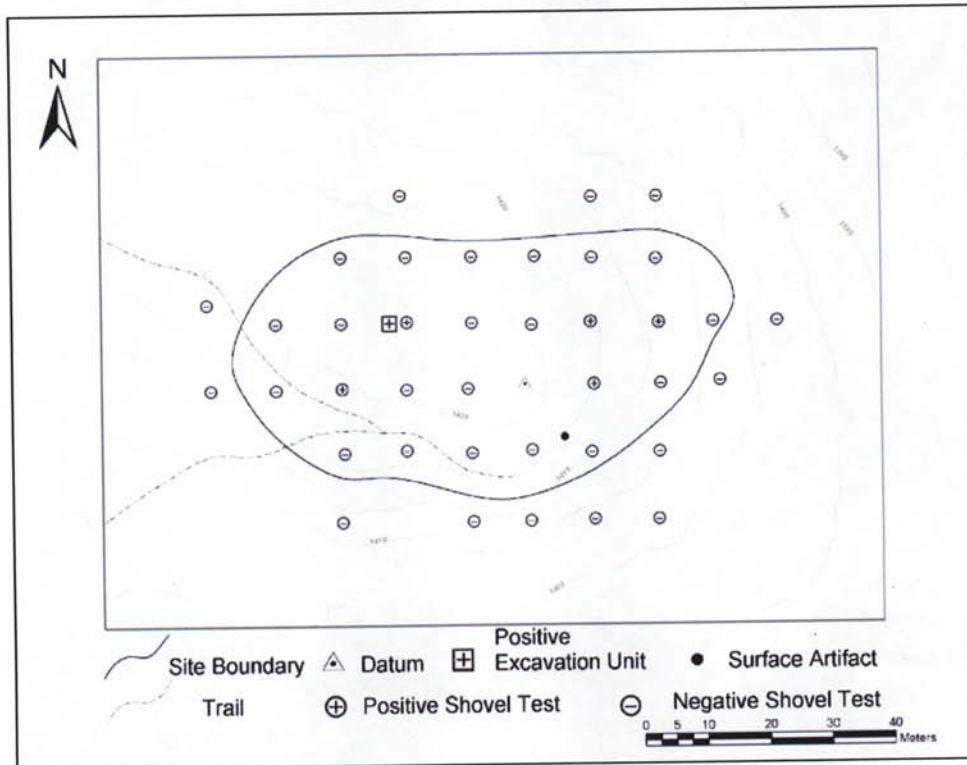


Figure 32. Site map of XMH-00904

Site XMH-00904 is a buried site at which late stage lithic reduction occurred. With the presence of non-local material types and buried cultural material, XMH-00904 can contribute to our knowledge of prehistoric land use patterns. In situ artifacts and soil stratigraphy indicate datable material and diagnostic artifacts may be present and could be used to date human use of the site, potentially contributing to a broader regional context. Site XMH-00904 is an intact archaeological site with integrity. The site is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places under criterion D for its potential to yield information important in understanding the prehistory of the region.

### XMH-00912

Latitude:

Longitude:

Determination: Not Eligible

Site XMH-00912 is located in an exposed area on the eastern edge of below the high water mark. The surrounding terrain is dotted with small kettle lakes and includes bogs, low ridges, and knolls. Site XMH-00912 was identified during pedestrian survey and consists of two flakes observed on the surface. Another artifact identified in

the 2002 survey was later deemed an ecofact. The UTM coordinates for the site are:

Shovel tests were systematically placed throughout the site area at intervals of 10m. A total of 15 shovel tests were excavated at the site. The depth of the shovel tests varied, but all were excavated to glacial till. All shovel tests were negative.

### ***Findings***

Pedestrian survey and 15 shovel tests produced a total of only two surface artifacts. This finding suggests that XMH-00912 is a small, localized occurrence. The paucity of cultural material indicates that XMH-00912 does not contain additional information that is important to our understanding of the prehistory or history of the region and is not eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

### ***XMH-00916***

Latitude:

Longitude:

Determination: Not Eligible

Site XMH-00916 is located on a small ridge. The nearest water source is an unnamed lake located 400m to the west. The vegetation at the site consists of a mixed forest with moss, lichen and dwarf scrub. Surface visibility is approximately 15 percent at the site. Site XMH-00916 was identified in 2002 during systematic shovel testing of a prominent landform and was reported to consist of four "flakes" found in one shovel test pit. These artifacts were later determined to be ecofacts. The UTM coordinates for XMH-00916 are:

In 2004 the location was resurveyed and shovel tests were systematically placed throughout the area at intervals of 10m. A total of 17 shovel tests were excavated. The depth of the shovel tests varied, but all were excavated to glacial till. All shovel tests were negative and no artifacts were found on the surface.

### ***Findings***

Pedestrian survey and 17 shovel tests produced no artifacts. Additionally, the artifacts recorded in 2002 were subsequently determined to be ecofacts. This finding suggests that XMH-00916 was not an archaeological site. Therefore, site XMH-00916 is not eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

### ***XMH-00919***

Latitude:

Longitude:

Determination: Eligible

Site XMH-00919 is located on the highpoint of a northeast-southwest trending ridge which provides an approximately 180° unobstructed view in those directions. To the east and south the ridge slopes down to generally flat topography. The nearest water source is a small unnamed lake which is located approximately 1.3km to the west and cannot be seen from the site. The vegetation at the site consists of a mixed forest with moss, lichen and dwarf scrub. Surface visibility is approximately 25 percent on the site. The UTM coordinates for the site are:



Site XMH-00919 consists entirely of lithic debitage. During the evaluation phase investigations, only two flakes were found on the surface. An additional four flakes were found subsurface in either shovel test pits or the excavation unit. No tools were found at the site. Materials consisted of basalt and rhyolite. All but one flake from the site (1 of 6) is a tertiary flake.

Shovel tests were systematically placed throughout the site at intervals of either 5m or 10m where slope and vegetation allowed. A total of 14 (10 in 2004 and 4 in 2002) shovel tests were excavated at the site with one positive test. A total of one artifact was recovered from those tests. The depths of the shovel tests varied, but in all cases were excavated down to glacial till. The subsurface artifact was found at a depth of 4-8 centimeters below the surface (cmbs).



*Figure 33. General view of site XMH-00919, facing east*

One 1m x 1m test unit was excavated and three artifacts were recovered. This unit was placed adjacent to a positive shovel test. The unit was excavated in 10cm levels until reaching glacial till throughout the entire floor of the unit. Soil thickness across the site varied from 15-30cm deep. Soil deposition and stratigraphy was generally uniform throughout the southeast slope of the hill where excavations were conducted. The soils consist of loosely compacted, dark brown, organically rich loess to an average depth of 5cmbs. Below this organic horizon the soil consists of moderately compacted brown loess. Glacial till is encountered below the loess and consists of a very loosely compacted yellowish brown sandy silty soil with a high density of gravels.

### ***Findings***

A total of six artifacts were recovered from XMH-00919. Two were recovered from the surface and four were recovered from below the surface. The materials at the site include rhyolite and basalt. Based on the results of survey and testing, the site area is estimated at approximately 15m x 10m.

Site XMH-00919 is a small lithic site with both surface and buried components where late stage lithic reduction occurred. With buried cultural material, XMH-00919 is in an excellent position to contribute to our knowledge of prehistoric land use patterns. In situ artifacts and soil stratigraphy indicate datable material and diagnostic artifacts may be present and could be used to date human use of the site, potentially contributing to a broader regional context. Site XMH-00919 is an intact archaeological site with integrity. The site is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places under criterion D for its potential to yield information important in understanding the prehistory of the region.



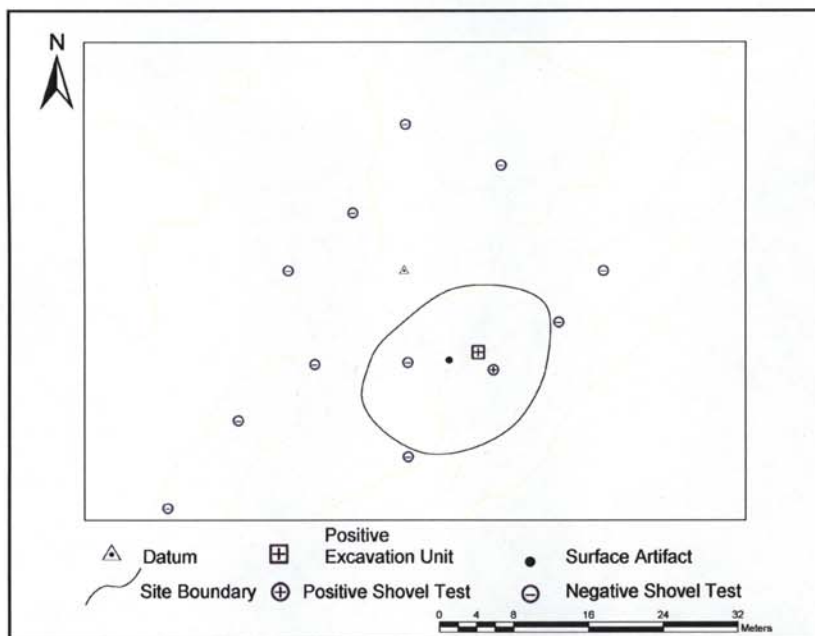


Figure 34. Site map of XMH-00919

#### XMH-00920

Latitude:

Longitude:

Determination: Eligible

Site XMH-00920 is located on the northern edge of a north-south trending terrace overlooking the flood plain. The site has an approximately 180° unobstructed view of the surrounding terrain to the south. The site has clear views of the Alaska Range to the southwest. and are located 1.5km to the northeast and is located 1km to the west. The vegetation at the site consists of a mixed forest with moss, lichen and dwarf scrub. Surface visibility is approximately 25 percent on the site. The UTM coordinates for the site are:

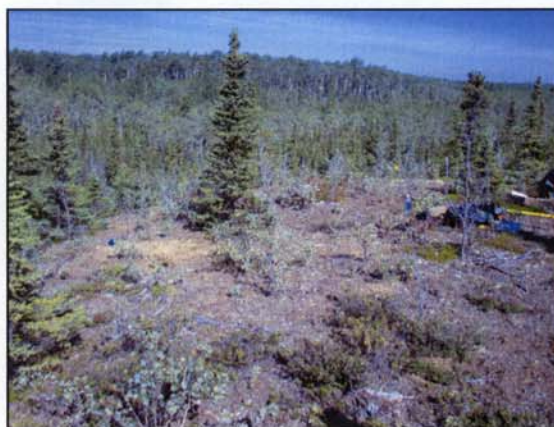


Figure 35. General view of site XMH-00920, facing northwest

Site XMH-00920 consists of 14 artifacts. Seven flakes and one uniface were found on the surface. The tan rhyolite uniface is approximately 30.9mm long, 35.9mm wide, and weighs 15.1g. An additional five flakes and one obsidian uniface fragment were found subsurface in either shovel test pits or the excavation unit. All artifacts encountered at the site were collected.

A grid system of shovel tests was systematically placed over the site area at 10m intervals based off of the datum stake located at the site. A total of nine additional shovel tests were placed at 5m intervals after the initial shovel tests were excavated. These nine shovel tests were placed near the locations of surface artifacts to increase